SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK **A5314**

		6	7		2	4		
	5				3		9	6
	1			4				
		1						
6							3	
9	3	8			7	1		2
7		5		8				
	4					8		
			6	9	5	3		4

TRICKY **B5314**

7								
	1					9		8
	2	3		6				
4				5			3	
	9	1		3		2		
			2					
5		4				6		9
					6	1		
		6		9	8	7		

To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerous strategies to help you solve sudoku. For hints and information visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Created by Peter Ritmeester (C) PZZL.com

CROSSWORD

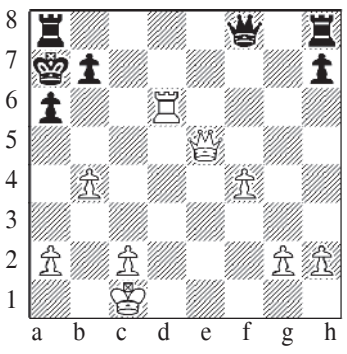
ACROSS

2 Forgave (8)
9 Concurs (6)
10 Decorated a cake (4)
11 Mountain route (4)
13 Loft (5)
14 Attractive (9)
16 Automaton (5)
19 Iridescent gem (4)
20 Second-hand (4)
21 Reach a destination (6)
22 Sequence of words (8)

DOWN

1 Precipitation (9)
3 Regions (5)
4 Perform again (4)
5 Leave-taking (9)
6 Orderly (4)
7 Without difficulty (6)
8 Ceded ends (anag.) (9)
12 Human beings (6)
15 Elementary (5)
17 Farm building (4)
18 Heat injury (4)

CHESS

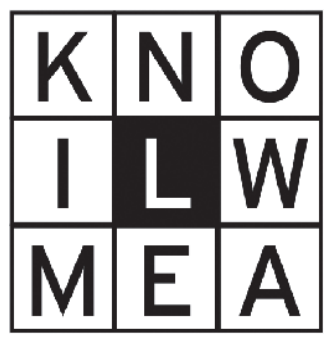


WHITE MATES IN 2

HINT: SACRIFICE AND MATE.

Solution: 1. Rxa6ch! bxa6 2. Qc7 mate. If instead 1. ... Kxa6, 2. Qa5 mate [Sherman- Mayer, '85].

TARGET



HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here?
In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word.
No plurals or verb forms ending in "s".

TODAY'S TARGET

Good 31;

Very good 46;

Excellent 61 (or more).

Solution tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

PLANTABLE

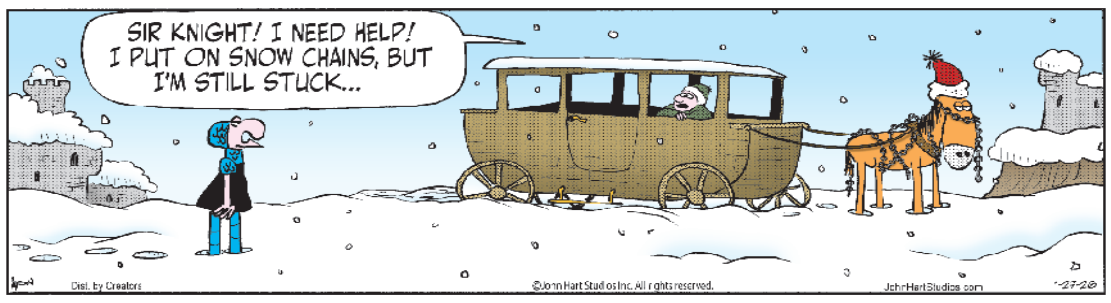
lapel, leap, leapt, napa, nape, neap, paean, paella, palate, pale, pall, pallet, pane, panel, pant, pate, patella, paten, peal, peat, pelt, penal, pent, petal, plan, plane, planet, plant, PLANTABLE, platan, plate, platen, plea, pleat, pleb, tape

THE METRO FUNNIES

BIG NATE | BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

SO WE'RE GONNA STUDY, RIGHT?
RIGHT. ABSO-LUTELY.
YOU'RE NOT GONNA LOOK AT YOUR PHONE?
I'M NOT GONNA LOOK AT MY PHONE.
...STARTING RIGHT AFTER I CHECK THIS ONE TINY THING.
HOW TINY?
"MOST... HILARIOUS... SKATEBOARDING... ACCIDENTS."
Visit bignate.com

THE WIZARD OF ID | BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART


SIR KNIGHT! I NEED HELP! I PUT ON SNOW CHAINS, BUT I'M STILL STUCK...
Dist. by Creators
©John Hart Studios Inc. All rights reserved.
JohnHartStudios.com

BABY BLUES

OKAY, I ORDERED A TRAMPOLINE FOR THE KIDS.
THEY'RE GOING TO BE SO EXCITED.
IT'LL BE DELIVERED TOMORROW.
PERFECT!
GO AHEAD AND PUT IT TOGETHER, IF YOU WANT.
I'M BATHS AND MEALS... YOU'RE ASSEMBLY.

WEATHER

Sunset & Sunrise

	Hyderabad	Islamabad	Karachi	Lahore	Peshawar	Quetta
Sunset	06:07pm	05:36pm	06:13pm	05:34pm	05:41pm	06:09pm
Sunrise	07:10am	07:04am	07:15am	06:56am	07:11am	07:21am

Three Day Forecast

	Today				Tomorrow			Day After		
	Min	Max	Outlook	Humidity%	Min	Max	Outlook	Min	Max	Outlook
Faisalabad	6	17	Cloudy	69	7	19	Mostly Sunny	8	20	Sunny
Hyderabad	7	28	Sunny	36	8	24	Partly Cloudy	10	24	Cloudy
Karachi	10	24	Sunny	27	11	24	Mostly Sunny	13	24	Mostly Cloudy
Lahore	10	16	Cloudy	74	7	18	Partly Cloudy	8	20	Sunny
Multan	6	19	Partly Cloudy	66	7	20	Mostly Sunny	9	20	Mostly Sunny
Peshawar	8	13	Showers	65	6	17	Mostly Sunny	7	20	Mostly Sunny
Quetta	-4	3	AM Snow	99	0	9	Partly Cloudy	-1	11	Partly Cloudy

Temperature estimates are internationally sourced and may differ from local estimates.

HELP

EMERGENCIES

Police Help	15, 99212652-53, 99212634
CPLC	1102, 35662222
Fire Brigade	16, 99215007, 99215008.
Bomb Disposal	99212674
KE Complaints	118
Telephone complaints	1218
Railway Inquiry	99213565-66
PCAA Flight Inquiry	99071284, 99071259
	99071265, 114

HOSPITALS

Abbasi Shaheed	99260400-09
Civil Hospital	99215740, 9215960
Jinnah Hospital	99201300-99201301
NICVD	99201271-6
Aga Khan Hospital	34930051
Medicare Hospital	021-111-001-786
Kharadar Gen Hospital	32510113-16
Indus Hospital	35112709
Tabba	36811841, 111844844
Ziauddin Hospital	35862937-9, 36648237-9
Kiran Cancer Hospital	99261601-04
Liaquat National	111-456-456, 34939615
Memon Medical	34691147 — 54
A.O. Clinic	36685564, 3668550-64
Baqai Hospital	36618396, 36618398
Holy Family Hospital	32258994, 32258991
Patel Hospital	111174174
South City Hospital	35374072
Kidney Centre Institute	35661000-10
Karwan-e-Hayat	021-111534111
Usman Memorial	021-36310311-15

AMBULANCE

Edhi	115, 32310066, 32310077
Chhipa	1020
SIEHS/Rescue	1122
St.John	32250500, 32250600
Red Crescent	35306227, 35306228

BLOOD BANK

Fatmid	32225284, 32258656
Husaini	32238405-08
PWA (Civil)	99215740, 99215959

WORD GAME

By Kathleen Saxe

▼ TODAY'S WORD
NARRATORS

(NARRATORS: NER-ray-ters. Those who tell a story in detail.)

Average mark 14 words
Time limit 30 minutes

Can you find 24 or more words in NARRATORS?

The list will be published tomorrow.

SOLUTIONS

▼ YESTERDAY'S WORD — VARSITY

vary, star, vast, stay, visa, stir, vista, stray, vita, stria, airy, tray, artsy, tsar, arty, astir, sari, satyr, sitar, stair

RULES OF THE GAME:

1. Words must be of four or more letters.
2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s," such as "bats" or "dies," are not allowed.
3. Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used. For example, if "bake" is used, "baked" or "bakes" are not allowed, but "bake" and "baking" are admissible.
4. Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed.

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

ACROSS

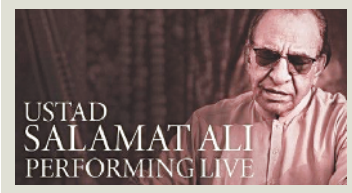
Contracts, Answer, Recital, Dell, Ore, Obvious, Our, Best, Angrily, Unison, Designing.

DOWN

Cardboard, Once, Twelve, Receiving, Cut, Tears, Selecting, Goblin, Ounce, Soon, Gas.

METRO EVENTS

MUSIC



An evening with Ustad Salamat Ali is held at National Academy of Performing Arts at 7pm.

TALK

A talk on 'Story Circle: Letters on Creativity and Friendship' by Fatima Ijaz and Taha Kehar, is held at Josh Malihabadi Library, Ahmed Shah Building, Arts Council of Pakistan, at 7pm.

CONFERENCE

'WIB Conference 2.0' is organised by the IBA Women in Business Club, at G&T Auditorium, IBA, Main Campus, at 11am.

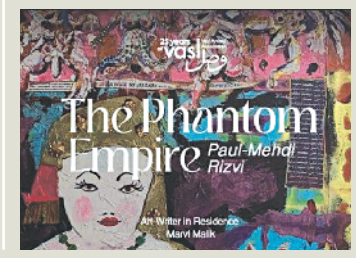
PLAY

Wah Tera Kiya Kehna! is staged as part of the Awami Theatre Festival, at Auditorium II, Arts Council of Pakistan, at 8pm.

EXHIBITIONS

Collective Presence, an exhibition of works by multiple artists, opens at Sanat Initiative Gallery, at 5pm.

The Phantom Empire, an exhibition of works by Paul-Mehdi Rizvi, opens at the Vasl Gallery, Clifton, Block 5, at 4pm.



HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

ARIES | March 21-April 19

*** You're a take-charge leader, and today is the kind of day where you will demonstrate your ability to influence a group to do your bidding. These might be younger people. They might be creative types. Whatever the case, you will lead the way. Tonight: Travel and talk.

TAURUS | April 20-May 20

*** Your ambition is aroused today, which is why you're determined to get what you want. However, your determination is so strong, you might clash with a boss, authority figure or someone competing with you. Remember what your objective is and work to achieve that. Tonight: Check your money.

GEMINI | May 21-June 20

*** This is a tricky day. After the Moon moves into your sign, you will have the advantage over all the other signs. Nevertheless, steer clear of disputes and arguments about politics, religion and racial issues. They could get nasty. Tread carefully. Tonight: You win!
** Be as diplomatic as you can to achieve

CANCER | June 21-July 22

what you want when dealing with issues about inheritances, shared property, taxes, debt or insurance claims, because this is the classic day for confrontations of ego. Don't let things escalate into intense situations. They could get nasty. Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 22

** Patience and diplomacy are your best friends today, because partners and others who might be close to you might oppose you, creating a Mexican standoff. This is the classic day for ego battles and power struggles. Don't let things escalate to a threatening level. Be cool. Tonight: Friendships.

VIRGO | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

*** This is a restless day! Later in the day and tonight, you are noticed by others. In fact, some people will know personal details about your private life. You're working hard to accomplish something, which is why this will be a productive day. (You will brook no interference.) Tonight: You're high-viz.

LIBRA | Sept. 23-Oct. 22

** Parents must be patient when dealing with their kids today because power struggles could get out of hand, which is not what you want. Likewise, a romantic argument might quickly escalate into something unpleasant. Sports activities also might lead to fighting, even violence. Take a breath; cool down. Tonight: Explore!

SCORPIO | Oct. 23-Nov. 21

** Avoid dangerous neighborhoods or people who are quick to anger in a scary way. Although unlikely, the vibes today could become ruthless because Mars is lined up with Pluto, which represents an enormous burst of energy and a determination to take over a situation. Tonight: Check your finances.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 22-Dec. 21

** By nature, you are upbeat and optimistic. Remember this if today you become tempted to fall prey to an inflated ego and start to boss the world around you. Avoid dangerous neighborhoods. Avoid negative people. Take the high road -- the view is better. Tonight: Cooperate.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

*** Avoid money squabbles or quarrels about possessions. At the least, these will frustrate you, and at the worst, they'll become threatening. Instead, channel your energy into a task at hand, your work or how to improve your health. Seek a diversion. Tonight: Get better organized.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

*** Today Mars and Pluto are lined up in your sign, which means you have an opportunity to accomplish a great deal or to wreak havoc. Think of the moment when Uncle Ben tells Spider-Man, "Remember, with great power comes great responsibility." Today you have great power. Tonight: Socialize and play.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

** This is actually an excellent day to tackle hard work and get a lot done. In fact, you will get a lot of satisfaction out of your achievements. Watch out for aggressive, pushy people. Avoid dangerous neighborhoods. Keep your wits about you. Tonight: Relax.

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-so-so; 1-Difficult

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bidding Quiz

By Steve Becker

Abnormal procedure

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7 2
♥ 7 5
♦ A K 10 6 5 2
♣ A K 3

WEST
♠ A J 6 5 3
♥ K 10 4 2
♦ 4
♣ J 9 5

EAST
♠ 10 9 4
♥ J 9 8
♦ J 8 7 3
♣ Q 6 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q 8
♥ A Q 6 3
♦ Q 9
♣ 10 8 7 4

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	3 NT	

Opening lead -- five of spades.

Bridge is essentially a game of logic. The more keenly a player reasons, the better he will do. General rules can be memorized and are certainly helpful, but they can easily be misapplied.

Take this case where it is easy to go wrong. South wins East's nine of spades with the king and obviously must attack diamonds, his most promising suit. But when he makes the normal play of the queen and another diamond, West shows out, and South is in deep trouble. He can now do no better than continue the suit, and after East takes the jack and returns a spade, the defenders collect four spade tricks for down one.

Correct play produces 10 tricks. In the given circumstances, declarer should not impulsively attack diamonds in the usual fashion but should first consider the possibility of a 4-1 division and try to protect against it.

To that end, South should lead a club to the king at trick two and return a low diamond, planning to finesse the nine. He does not mind if the nine loses to the jack, because with West on lead, the queen of spades is impervious to attack, and no other return by West can do him any harm.

As it happens, the nine wins, and South coasts home with at least 10 tricks. But note that even if the finesse loses to the jack, he is still sure of nine tricks -- five diamonds, two clubs, a spade and a heart -- whatever West returns.

To start the diamonds by cashing the queen first is a bow to normal procedure that is not justified in the present case. The safety play in diamonds virtually assures a favorable outcome.

Tomorrow: Vanishing act.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Quick — A5313

2	7	1	4	8	6	5	9	3
4	6	5	7	3	9	1	8	2
9	3	8	1	5	2	4	7	6
3	4	6	8	7	5	9	2	1
1	2	7	6	9	4	3	5	8
8	5	9	2	1	3	6	4	7
5	9	2	3	6	7	8	1	4
6	8	4	9	2	1	7	3	5
7	1	3	5	4	8	2	6	9

Tricky — B5313

3	7	8	9	6	5	2	4	1
9	2	1	7	3	4	6	8	5
4	5	6	2	8	1	7	9	3
8	1	5	3	4	7	9	2	6
6	9	7	5	2	8	1	3	4
2	4	3	6	1	9	8	5	7
7	3	9	8	5	6	4	1	2
5	6	4	1	9	2	3	7	8
1	8	2	4	7	3	5	6	9